

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on September 22, 2004 as well as the art cited. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ijtsma et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,606,285). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 reads as follows:

A method for configuring a removable storage medium, comprising:
selecting a configuration for said removable storage medium, wherein logical sectors are consistently identified for both an aware device and an unaware device;
if the selected configuration is for said aware device, then masking a standard location for a file system indicator on said removable storage medium; and
if the selected configuration is for said unaware device, then copying said file system indicator from a non-standard location to said standard location on said removable storage medium.

The Examiner asserts that Ijtsma teaches "masking a standard location for a file system indicator on said removable storage medium" and "copying said file system indicator from a non-standard location to said standard location on said removable storage medium." The Examiner only points to Figures 11-16 in support of this assertion. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. Applicant has reviewed the cited Figures and respectfully asserts that Ijtsma does not teach the claimed limitations. For example, Ijtsma does not teach a configuration for an "aware" device that masks a standard location for a file storage indicator and a configuration for an "unaware" device that copies the file system indicator from a non-standard location to the standard location. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Ijtsma. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are also allowable at least for the reasons identified above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 8 reads as follows:

A system for configuring a removable storage medium with consistently identified logical sectors, comprising:
computer-readable storage media;
computer-readable program code stored on said computer-readable storage media, comprising:
program code for masking at least one standard location for a file system indicator on said removable storage medium, whereby said removable storage medium is configured for access by an aware device; and
program code for copying said file system indicator from at least one non-standard location to said at least one standard location on said removable storage medium, whereby said removable storage medium is configured for access by an unaware device.

The Examiner asserts that Ijtsma teaches "masking at least one standard location for a file system indicator on said removable storage medium" and "copying said file system indicator from at least one non-standard location to said at least one standard location on said removable storage medium." The Examiner only points to Figures 11-16 in support of this assertion. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. Applicant has reviewed the cited Figures and respectfully asserts that Ijtsma does not teach the claimed limitations. For example, Ijtsma does not teach configuring a removable storage medium for an "aware" device with program code that masks at least one standard location for a file storage indicator and configuring a removable storage medium for an "unaware" device with program code that copies the file system indicator from at least one non-standard location to at least one standard location. Therefore, claim 8 is not anticipated by Ijtsma. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-18 depend directly or indirectly from claim 8 and are also allowable at least for the reasons identified above with respect to claim 8.

Claim 19 reads as follows:

A system for configuring a removable storage medium, comprising:
a first conversion module for configuring said removable storage medium for access by an aware device by masking a standard location for a file system indicator on said removable storage medium; and

a second conversion module for configuring said removable storage medium for access by an unaware device by copying said file system indicator from a non-standard location to said standard location on said removable storage medium.

The Examiner asserts that Ijtsma teaches "masking a standard location for a file system indicator on said removable storage medium" and "copying said file system indicator from a non-standard location to said standard location on said removable storage medium." The Examiner only points to Figures 11-16 in support of this assertion. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. Applicant has reviewed the cited Figures and respectfully asserts that Ijtsma does not teach the claimed limitations. For example, Ijtsma does not teach a conversion module that configures a removable storage medium for an "aware" device by masking a standard location for a file storage indicator and a conversion module for configuring a removable storage medium for an "unaware" device by copying the file system indicator from a non-standard location the standard location. Therefore, claim 19 is not anticipated by Ijtsma. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 20 depends directly from claim 19 and is also allowable at least for the reasons identified above with respect to claim 19.

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Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONFIGURING A REMOVABLE STORAGE MEDIUM

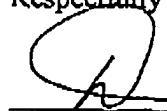
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at 612-455-1680.

Date: December 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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